

REMARKS

This Amendment accompanies a Request for Continued Examination (RCE).

Claims 3-5 and 21-25 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 3-5 have been amended to more particularly define the invention. Claims 21-25 have been added to claim additional aspects of the invention. Claims 6-20 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

It is noted that the claim amendments are made only for more particularly pointing out the invention, and not for distinguishing the invention over the prior art, narrowing the claims or for any statutory requirements of patentability. Further, Applicant specifically states that no amendment to any claim herein should be construed as a disclaimer of any interest in or right to an equivalent of any element or feature of the amended claim.

New claims 21-25 have been added to claim additional features of the invention and to provide more varied protection for the claimed invention. These claims are independently patentable because of the novel and nonobvious features recited therein.

There is no teaching or suggestion by the cited references of “first means for storing a plurality of values indicating different rotational speeds of the motor; second means for calculating a rate $\Delta P/\Delta T$ of pressure change ΔP and time ΔT ; and third means for selecting one of the values based on the internal pressure P and the rate $\Delta P/\Delta T$ of pressure change, and controlling the rotational speed of said motor in accordance with the selected value” as defined in claim 3.

There is no teaching or suggestion by the cited references of “storing a plurality of values indicating different rotational speeds of the motor; calculating a rate $\Delta P/\Delta T$ between pressure change ΔP and time ΔT ; selecting one of the values based on the pressure P of said tank portion and the rate $\Delta P/\Delta T$ of pressure change; and controlling the rotational speed of said motor in accordance with the selected value” as defined in claim 5.

There is no teaching or suggestion by the cited references of “calculating a rate $\Delta P/\Delta T$ between pressure change ΔP and time ΔT ; storing a plurality of tables each indicating relations among the pressure P , the rate $\Delta P/\Delta T$ and different rotational speeds of the motor; selecting one of the plurality of tables based on a currently operating motor speed; and searching for the rotational speed of the motor by referring to the selected table” as defined in claim 25.

Applicant submits that the new claims are patentable over the cited prior art references at least for analogous reasons to those set forth above with respect to claim 3.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 3-5 and 21-25, all the claims presently pending in the application, are patentably distinct over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue at the earliest possible time.

Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully Submitted,

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